

MINNESOTA AG NEWS

CROP PRODUCTION



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Released: November 10, 2005

RECORD HIGH YIELD FORECASTED FOR CORN AND SOYBEANS

**CORN** for grain production is forecast at 1.16 billion bushels, up 7 percent from the October 1 forecast, and up 4 percent from the record production of 2004, according to the USDA, NASS, Minnesota Field Office. Based on conditions as of November 1, yield is forecast at 171 bushels per acre, up 12 bushels from the record yield set in 2004. If realized, both yield and production would be record highs.

**SOYBEAN** production for Minnesota is forecast at 299 million bushels, up 5 percent from the October forecast and up 29 percent from 2004. Based on conditions as of November 1, the yield is forecast at a record yield of 44.0 bushels per acre which is up 2 bushels from October and up 11 bushels from last year.

The **SUGARBEET** crop is estimated at 9.33 million tons, up 3 percent from last month but down 5 percent from last year. Yield is estimated at 20.1 tons per acre, up 0.6 ton from October 1 but down 0.8 ton per acre from 2004.

**FALL POTATO** production is forecast at 17.4 million hundredweight, down 8 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 415 hundredweight, down 15 hundredweight from the record high yield in 2004.

U.S. HIGHLIGHTS

**CORN** production is forecast at 11.0 billion bushels, up 2 percent from last month but 7 percent below 2004. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 148.4 bushels per acre, up 2.3 bushels from October but 12.0 bushels below last year. If realized, both production and yield would be the second largest on record, behind last year. Of the major producing States, forecast yields are higher than last month in Iowa, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin as producers realized larger than expected yields and late planted fields matured under favorable fall conditions. Yield prospects are still below last year in all major corn States, except Minnesota and Wisconsin where producers are experiencing record high yields.

**SOYBEAN** production is forecast at 3.04 billion bushels, up 3 percent from October but 3 percent below 2004. If realized, this would be the second largest U.S. soybean crop on record, only behind last year's crop. Based on November 1 conditions, yields are expected to average a record high 42.7 bushels per acre, up 1.1 bushels from October and 0.5 bushel above last year. Producers in the Corn Belt, the southern Delta, and most of the Southeast are realizing higher yields than expected last month, with record high yields forecast in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Louisiana. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 71.3 million acres, unchanged from last month but down 4 percent from 2004.

**SUGARBEET** production for 2005 is forecast at 27.3 million tons, 2 percent above the October forecast but 9 percent below last year's production. The yield is forecast at 22.0 tons per acre, up 0.5 ton from October but 0.9 ton below 2004. Growers in the 12 sugarbeet-producing States expect to harvest 1.24 million acres, fractionally below last month and 5 percent below last year.

Production of **FALL POTATOES** for 2005 is forecast at 382 million cwt, down 7 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 951,800 acres, is virtually unchanged from the July forecast but 7 percent below last year. The average yield is forecast at a record high 402 cwt per acre, 1 cwt above the previous high set last year.

This is the last production forecast of the season for these commodities. Final acreage and production figures will be released on January 12, 2006 based on data collected from the end-of-year survey.

MINNESOTA & U.S. HARVESTED ACRES, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

| COMMODITY           | 2004<br>HARVESTED<br>ACRES<br>(000) | 2005<br>HARVESTED<br>ACRES<br>(000) | 2004<br>YIELD | 2005<br>YIELD | 2004<br>PRODUCTION<br>(000) | 2005<br>PRODUCTION<br>(000) |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| MINNESOTA           |                                     |                                     |               |               |                             |                             |
| CORN (Bu)           | 7,050                               | 6,800                               | 159.0         | 171.0         | 1,120,950                   | 1,162,800                   |
| SOYBEANS (Bu)       | 7,050                               | 6,800                               | 33.0          | 44.0          | 232,650                     | 299,200                     |
| SUGARBEETS (Ton)    | 470                                 | 464                                 | 20.9          | 20.1          | 9,823                       | 9,326                       |
| FALL POTATOES (Cwt) | 44                                  | 42                                  | 430           | 415           | 18,920                      | 17,430                      |
| UNITED STATES       |                                     |                                     |               |               |                             |                             |
| CORN (Bu)           | 73,632                              | 74,333                              | 160.4         | 148.4         | 11,807,217                  | 11,032,105                  |
| SOYBEANS (Bu)       | 73,958                              | 71,270                              | 42.2          | 42.7          | 3,123,686                   | 3,043,116                   |
| SUGARBEETS (Ton)    | 1,307                               | 1,239                               | 22.9          | 22.0          | 29,956                      | 27,254                      |
| FALL POTATOES (Cwt) | 1,022                               | 952                                 | 401           | 402           | 410,253                     | 382,212                     |

WATCH FOR OUR ANNUAL CROP SUMMARY  
TO BE RELEASED ON JANUARY 12TH

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